Message Text

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13

ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 PM-07 ISO-00 H-03 DODE-00 AEC-11 CIAE-00

INR-10 IO-14 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-04 OMB-01 PA-04 PRS-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 TRSE-00 RSC-01

NSC-07 /132 R

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ASD/ISA:COL MICHAEL
OJCS:COL LAFFERTY (INFO)

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R 130052Z JUL 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO

ALL NATO CAPITALS

INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USCINCEUR

USLOSACLANT

CINCLANT

USNMR SHAPE

USDEL MC

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: MCAP, US

SUBJECT: PUBLIC COMMENTS ON TROOP REDUCTIONS

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

1. FOLLOWING THE DEFEAT OF AMENDMENTS TO REDUCE UNILIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LATERALLY US TROOPS ABROAD, THERE WAS SOME PUBLIC COMMENT

THAT CONGRESSIONAL PRESSURE FOR OVERSEAS TROOP REDUCTIONS HAD EASED. SINCE CONGRESS WILL SOON BE CONSIDERING DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS BILL, AND FURTHER EFFORTS ARE EXPECTED DURING THOSE DEBATES TO REDUCE UNILATERALLY OVERSEAS TROOP STRENGTH, SUCH COMMENTS BY USG OR ALLIED OFFICIALS WOULD BE POTENTIALLY HARMFUL.

2. EMBASSIES SHOULD MAKE KNOWN TO ALLIED GOVERNMENTS THAT CONGRESSIONAL CONCERN WITH SIZE OF US OVERSEAS FORCES HAS NOT ABATED. RECENT AMENDMENT TO THE DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL TO REQUIRE A WORLDWIDE UNILATERAL REDUCTION OF 75,000 MEN WAS DEFEATED BY ONLY TWO VOTES IN THE SENATE. SIMILAR AMENDMENTS ARE EXPECTED WITHIN A MONTH'S TIME WHEN THE DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS BILL COMES UP FOR APPROVAL.

KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: PUBLIC ATTITUDES, FORCE & TROOP LEVELS

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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